THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Assignee:

Cisco Technology, Inc.

Title:

METHOD AND APPARATUS SUPPORTING NETWORK

COMMUNICATIONS THROUGH A FIREWALL

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MAIL STOP AMENDMENT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P. O. BOX 1450 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated December 12, 2005, having a shortened statutory period expiring on March 12, 2006. Accompanying this response is a petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for a one month extension of time, setting a new time for response to April 12, 2006. Further examination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks set forth below.

No Amendments to the Specification are presented in this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are presented on page 2 of this paper.

No Amendments to the Drawings are presented in this paper.

Remarks begin on page 13 of this paper.